

Housing Assessment General Tips

- ◆ Ensure the dwelling has multiple entry / exit doors to provide emergency escape alternatives
 - ◆ Ensure all exterior doors have dead-bolt type locks
- ◆ Ensure all doors and frames are heavy and solidly constructed
- ◆ Ask if lock cylinders can be changed
- ◆ Ensure the entrance door has a peephole or intercom system
- ◆ Windows with grills, bars, or horizontal blinds installed provide greater security
- ◆ Ensure windows can be secured from the interior
- ◆ Built-in security alarm systems can help deter break-ins
- ◆ Ensure the dwelling has fire or smoke detectors / alarms installed, and purchase fire extinguishers if not already present in the dwelling
- ◆ Good external lighting can provide additional security
- ◆ Fences may deter theft and add privacy
- ◆ Consult with personnel within your local housing office, security officials, and your local Antiterrorism Officer prior to, during, and when making a final selection



*Remember, your protection
begins with you!*

Housing Assessment General Tips

- ◆ Don't choose a dwelling near an industrial zone, power plant, or other hazards i.e., flood zones - increases the likelihood of damage due to fallout from manmade / natural disaster
- ◆ Don't choose a dwelling located on a dead end street - limits emergency entry and exit and could increase likelihood of house break-ins
- ◆ Avoid dwellings with unsecured underground parking - can increase the effect of vehicle borne improvised explosive devices
- ◆ Don't choose a dwelling with obvious signs of forced entry or attempted forced entry, such as scratches on doors, putty around latches and window frames



Complete the Puzzle



Residential Security Guide

Consider these common sense suggestions for home selection and emergency planning to enhance your family's safety and protection

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Create a Children's Communications Plan once you've moved in

Know the Numbers!

Home: _____	Adult: _____
Parent: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Work: _____	Neighbor: _____
	Home: _____
Parent: _____	Cell: _____
Cell: _____	Neighbor: _____
Work: _____	Home: _____
	Cell: _____
My cell: _____	Out of state friend/relative: _____
Sibling: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Sibling: _____	
Cell: _____	

Memorize your home and parents' cell phone numbers!

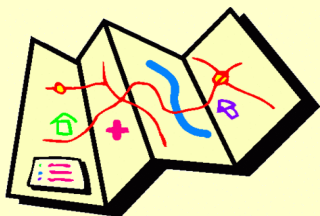
- Emergencies can happen at any time. Do you know how to get in touch with your family if you are not together?

- Establish meeting spots near your home and in town but further away

In your neighborhood:
(such as neighbor's house or big tree)

Out of your neighborhood:
(such as the library or house of worship)

- Make sure everyone knows where to go. If necessary, draw a map and discuss with family members



- Make an emergency kit that is always ready to go when you are

Family planning once residence is identified

Preparing Makes Sense!

- Hold a family meeting to make a plan: Before an emergency occurs, have a family discussion to determine who would be your out-of-area point of contact, and where you would meet away from your home — both in the neighborhood and within your town.

Develop a Family Communications Plan.

- Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations.
- Consider a plan where each family member calls, or e-mails, the same friend or relative in the event of an emergency.

Resources:

Family Communication Plan

Let them know you're OK!

Pick the same person for each family member to contact. It might be easier to reach someone who's out of town.

Emergencies can happen at any time. Does your family know how to get in touch with each other if you are not all together?

Before an emergency happens, have a family discussion to determine who would be your out-of-state point of contact, and where you would meet away from your home — both in the neighborhood and within your town.

Important Information

Fill in this information and keep a copy in a safe place, such as your purse or briefcase, your car, your office, and your disaster kit. Be sure to look it over every year and keep it up to date.

Out-of-Town Contact

Name: _____

Home: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Facebook: _____

Twitter: _____

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Regional Meeting Place:

Work Information

Workplace: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Facebook: _____

Twitter: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

School Information

School: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Facebook: _____

Twitter: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

<http://www.ready.gov/kids>

- <https://www.ready.gov/kids>

- <https://www.fema.gov>

What else can you do to protect your family?

Prior to selection “Assess” the location

Some Basic Common Sense Steps You Should Take:

- Use an internet mapping tool such as google maps to verify the selected location provides more than one entry/exit route

- Determine availability of adequate, near-by parking
- Ensure there are no major industrial areas within close proximity of selected residence



Safety and Security:

- Ask local security agencies, such as Military Police, Antiterrorism Officer, or G2 / S2 about security concerns within selected area
- Conduct a terrain walk of selected area, look for signs of attempted break-ins on doors and windows
- Does the neighborhood generally seem to be safe and well-kept, or does it look run-down and unsafe (check residence during daylight hours and hours of darkness)?

Dwelling Layout:

- Overall look and appearance, verify adequate general maintenance, such as no broken windows or damaged doors
- If necessary, verify fire escapes / exits are available and functioning, and ensure they can be secured

Test Lighting:

- Check area lighting, are street lights installed (check during hours of darkness)
- Check residence lighting, does the residence have exterior lighting / interior lighting
- Check entrance ways, hallways, walkways, parking areas, elevators, stairwells, mail areas, and laundry areas for adequate lighting

